

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended and are supported by at least Figures 1 and 2 of the current application. Changes made to the claims by the current amendment are shown in the attached "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

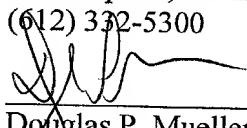
Claims 1-7, 9-19, 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Maruyama et al., U.S. 6,323,440. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Maruyama fails to disclose a movable pawl with "a surface that faces downward and is substantially parallel to a top face of the electronic component, the surface being brought into contact with the top face of the electronic component so that the electronic component is pressed toward the base" (electrodes) as required by claims 1 and 12. Maruyama discloses movable pawls 30, 31 and 60, 61 for holding electronic components 32, 62, respectively, as shown Figures 9C and 15. However, Maruyama fails to disclose movable pawls with surfaces that face downward and that are substantially parallel with top faces of the electronic components 32, 36. Maruyama also fails to disclose surfaces of the movable pawls that are brought into contact with the top surfaces of the electronic components 32, 62 so as to press the electronic components 32, 62 against electrodes or a base. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Maruyama fails to disclose every limitation of claims 1 and 12, and the claims that depend from them.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A fixture, comprising:
a base with an opening in its center portion;
a movable pawl provided on the base for fixing an electronic component [by being brought into contact with a top face of the electronic component]; and
at least one pair of positioning walls for positioning the electronic component,
wherein the at least one pair of positioning walls are inner wall faces of the base, and
the movable pawl has a surface that faces downward and is substantially parallel with a top face of the electronic component, the surface being brought into contact with the top face of the electronic component so that the electronic component is pressed toward the base.

12. (Three Times Amended) A circuit board with a fixture, comprising:
a fixture mounted on a circuit board, for placing an electronic component; and
electrodes formed on the circuit board with the fixture,
wherein the fixture comprises a movable pawl for fixing an electronic component [by being brought into contact with a top face of the electronic component] and at least one pair of positioning walls for positioning an electronic component,
the at least one pair of positioning walls are inner wall faces of the fixture, [and]
the electrodes are exposed between the at least one pair of positioning walls, and
the movable pawl has a surface that faces downward and is substantially parallel with a top face of the electronic component, the surface being brought into contact with the top face of the electronic component so that the electronic component is pressed against the electrodes.

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